USING TRANSITIONS TO CONNECT IDEAS

A transition is a word or a phrase that connects two parts of a piece of writing. Within paragraphs, transitions are used to connect sentences and, sometimes, parts of sentences.

1. Transitions to show time/chronological order

| about | first | meanwhile | soon | then | in the future |
|--------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| after | second | today | later | next | in the past |
| at | third | tomorrow | afterward | as soon as | recently |
| before | last of all | next week | immediately | eventually | |
| during | until | yesterday | finally | last of all | |

2. Transitions to show spatial order

| beside | next to | in front | to the right | behind |
|---------------|---------|----------|--------------|--------|
| in the middle | on top | beneath | beside | |

3. Transitions to show degree order

| more | least | more importantly | least important |
|------|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| less | most | most important | |

4. Transitions to compare/to show comparisons/to show similarities

| in the same way | likewise | as | also | like | similarly |
|-----------------|----------|----|------|------|-----------|
| , | | | | | |

5. Transitions to show cause and effect order

| one cause | another effect | as a result | consequently | therefore |
|-----------|----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| | | | | |

6. Transitions for classification

another group the first type one kind other sorts other types other kinds

7. Transitions to introduce examples and add information

| for example | another example | along with | finally |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| one example | in addition | as well | a final example |
| for instance | additionally | also | |

8. Transitions to introduce a conclusion, summary, or generalization

| In conclusion | Therefore | As a result | Finally | In summary | In general |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|---------|------------|------------|
| | | | | | |

9. Transitions to show differences/to contrast/to show a contradiction

| nonetheless | despite | instead | on the other hand |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| neverthelesss | however | on the contrary | in contrast |
| but | in spite of this | different from | unlike this |
| although | otherwise | yet | another difference |